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Canadian Moving Picture DIGEST

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A NEW OCTOPUS



THE London Press is campaigning in respect to what it terms a new Octopus, namely "clairvoyance". Tea-Cup reading, palm reading, crystal reading, horoscope, etc.,

etc. The editorials do not object to those who have the prophetic sense of seeing, past, present and future; all of which 'tis said is written upon the Etheric Mirror of Life.

It is not the Seers, but the "racketeers" to which the London Press objects. During these years of lost fortunes, lost wages, unemployment, lost homes, suicides; and all the ills to which an Economic Depression is heir, the tea-cup readers, etc., etc., have multiplied prodigiously. It is surprising how curious mortals are, how eager to rend the veil of that which is to be.

Look around Toronto, any of Canada's big cities, or the cities in the United States, and you will find these fortune-tellers have practically put this trade of the covered wagon of the Gypsies out of business.

Everybody is doing it; and what the Press fears, doing those who are gullible.

It is said that some of these work in co-operation with shyster lawyers, the latter who are seeking divorce cases. The fakirs tell the nervously-wrought woman her husband is out with a blonde; and if the husband happens to have a blonde secretary, to the lawyer the wife goes; the lawyer who has been recommended by the clairvoyant, and so comes in on the spoils.

Then there is a stock-selling tie-up also worked along similar ideas, with a division of spoils. If exhibitors would take time to make an inspection of the number of such places; and the line-up of men and women who wait to have their fortunes told; wait in some cheap restaurant drinking tea, smoking cigarettes, or eating anaemic sandwiches to fill in time, they would be surprised to learn that here is where some of their matinee receipts surely go.

"I'LL BE SEEIN' YOU" (ABYSSINIA)

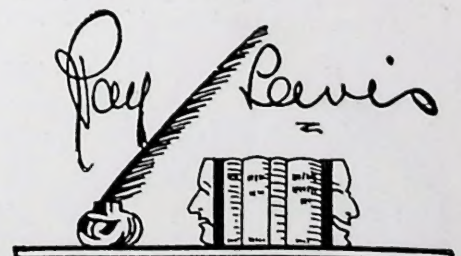
THE modernized form of "au-revoir" has for nearly two years now, been Abyssinia, meaning to imply, "I'll be seeing you". It is rather curious that this name Abyssinia, so slangily used by our youth, should now be commanding the attention of the most serious minds of the world. Abyssinia may be the cause of another World War; and may prove to the world that no League of Nations, no Government, no Reforms, no Church, can legislate, or order peace, virtue, and morality, or neighborly good-will, unless the people themselves, are made of this stuff.

We still have faith that a League of Nations, and the civilized nations of the world, will intervene so that there shall be no war between Abyssinia and Italy.

A year ago, or so, your editor suggested to the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Co. that the Queen of Sheba would furnish story material to make a fascinating picture. We thought of Garbo in the part. Biblical history does not reveal the love-story in its complete form, between King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, but the ancient manuscripts do relate that the Queen of Sheba, urged by her people to return to her own country, begged King Solomon to give her only as gifts, the children, her sons which she had borne to him.

Now the King of Abyssinia, who long ago has claimed to be a descendant of King Solomon, and the Queen of Sheba, will, he states, go into battle, just as the Israelites did of old, with the Arc of the Covenant as his shield from Heaven.

Here is action, color, romance, drama, and a peace appeal of unusual strength, with Abyssinia furnishing gold and story material!



RAY



RAY LEWIS

PRESENTS

OF those men who exploit the brains, the possessions of others, their capacity and ability to work, taking from these their economic as well as spiritual freedom, for such as these the Governments to come should find room.

Let us say that many who are at present unemployed have degenerated into a state of being agitators. Among the present shouters for work are those who never worked, or worked as little as possible. These belong to all times, but the present time gives them what they love, Publicity.

This does not relieve those who govern, or those who must work for such as these, from their respective obligations; for while it is a fact that many of these are "no good" it may be possible that they have been made "no good" through the influence of heredity. Their father, or grandfather saw no future for himself, or his family, save that which he could secure through a slavery wage.

Before we pass judgment we should give the people of today two generations of right living; and at the end of such experiment see if the seed we have sown does not produce a better crop. We may not be here to see, but we have sown.

Of one thing our Governments, financiers, industrialists should be aware, the shouting mob today are students, not all from poor homes; they are neither ignorant, nor uneducated. What Youth lacks is patience, and the experience of life, an opportunity to work and a rekindled confidence in leaders for whom they should have respect and love.

Our parents gave us a World War, and we are giving our children a Civil War. The admitted ills of our Economic System is sufficient excuse for them to tell us that we do not know how to conduct business, nor how to govern. It is to the Youth we must turn in order to steady the world. Revolutions and Martyrs are made from the stuff of Youth. Look into your history of Revolutions.

THE Governments of the World have the greatest mediums of all civilizations at their disposal to deliver their story, namely The Screen, and The Radio, for the Preservation of Law and Order, the prevention of Riot. Neither Screen nor Radio should sell themselves for the use of the epidemic of Agitators to which this age happens to have given birth.

And if England can have the highest rate of employment which she has had in fourteen years, which means since 1921, the latter period which was going forward to a Prosperous boom era, and 1935 which is the fag end of seven of the leanest kind of years economically, then any other country can, with equal sincerity, appli-

cation and co-operation from the people, arrive at the same inspiring results.

When Henry VIII, in the Korda-Regal picture said, "The Things I've Done For England", it gave us the merriest kind of a laugh, but what truth there was in that jest. In Great Britain the people are proud to give their best to their country. It is their life's blood. Lose such impetus, such inspiration, such vision, and Chaos has come again.

This is a Time of great giving in a world of Business in which Cheap Labour, and Cheap Quality, the latter attired to make a showing, appears to be capturing the Trade of the World. Motion Pictures is producing better pictures, and searching the Arts, Letters, Sciences of the world for Quality.

THE Universal line-up includes "Diamond Jim", a gem of a production, starring Edward Arnold; and in the cast Jean Arthur, Binnie Barnes, Cesar Romero, Hugh O'Connell, Otis Harlan, Robert McWade, Eric Blore, George Sidney, Henry Kolker, Fred Kelsey; has been directed by Edward Sutherland, responsible for so many finely directed pictures.

Everybody knows the story of "Diamond Jim", he was like the woman who had rings on her fingers and bells on her toes. "Diamond Jim" had diamonds.

Another production which looks like real box-office will be Irene Dunne in the "Magnificent Obsession". Author Lloyd C. Douglas who also wrote "Green Light" of equal fame. "Magnificent Obsession" will be a John M. Stahl production.

One of my favorites, William Powell, in "My Man Godfrey" adapted from the Liberty Magazine serial by Eric Hatch, also looks good. "East of Java," another well-known title and story by Gouverneur Morris. Direction by George Melford is included in the Universal 1935-36 program.

"STORM Over The Andes" brings an old favorite Jack Holt, co-starred with Cesar Romero. Christy Cabanne will direct, Cabanne also a favorite; and lest I forget, Irene Dunne in Edna Ferber's "Show Boat", music by Jerome Kern, directed by James Whale, gives us more of Irene Dunne; we can't have too much.

Another Jack Holt, we can take it joyfully, is "Destroyer", Samuel Johnson's thrilling submarine pirate tale, and a merry tale it is.

And here's a wise one, "King Solomon of

(Continued on page 5)

Critics State "Alice Adams" Hepburn's Best Film—RKO Production

Ray Presents

(Continued from page 4)

Broadway". Universal presents him as "The guy who knew a thousand wives". I cannot just make out what Universal mean by "The guy who knew".

WHEN Solomon of Biblical fame "knew a woman, well, he knew her well". The Bible speaks of many kings, great and lesser ones, of others who knew their wives, and these wives gave them children as a result of that "knew".

In fact chronicles are full, two books of chronicles, of these who "knew", and begat and begat!

"King Solomon of Broadway" is called "a guy", which makes it possible that he knew a thousand wives but they were the wives of other men! such a "begatting" is not wise, since it gets you in the papers, and maybe in jail. However, Albert J. Cohen and Robert F. Shanner (sounds Jewish and Irish, a combination which when it "begats" takes the prize) are responsible for the story. Alan Crosland will direct.

Of interest is the new picture, "Phantom of the Opera". A great idea. The huge theatre still stands at Universal City, constructed for the silent version. We all saw a performance there, the night of the Laemmle-Universal 20th Anniversary celebration of Universal City!

"THE INFORMER" and "The Scoundrel" which gave Motion Pictures an added quality boost, but let us down on the box-office for a time, have had many return dates in the money; and are reaping the benefits of their unique entertainment value now.

And now that Showman of Showmen, Samuel Goldwyn, is to present Miriam Hopkins in Edna Ferber's "Come and Get It".

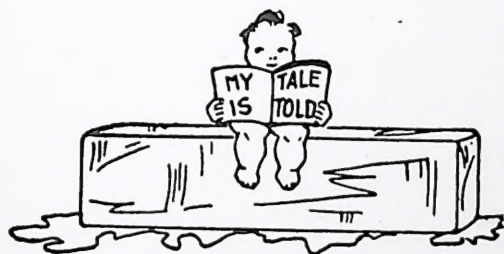
Warner's "Caliente" has hit the high spot of Entertainment. Dancers, singers, comedians, wise patter, beautiful bodies, the latter not by Fisher, but Warner Bros.

DE MARCOS, Dolores Del Rio, Pat O'Brien, Edward Everett Horton, Leo Carillo, and a ballet of white ponies, not little women, but horses, purer than snow.

Now there is no reason why a chorus of horses in a Motion Picture should not be purer than snow.

These are snow-white horses and they do their stunt in the patio of the Agua Caliente Hotel! Vass you dere Charley? Hotcha! and this while I am in London, common I call it.

When Lord Tennyson wrote "The Holy Grail", 'tis said the rarified atmosphere of his inspiration sent him to Whitechapel for recreation. London is not a "Holy Grail", nor am I Lord Tennyson, as a matter of fact, I couldn't be, I'm a lady, no, no, not Ladysmith, I'm in England, not South Africa.



U.S. Government to Make Survey Entire Film Industry—Thomas McGuire Heads Advisory Committee

The Digest Takes Another Bow

Letters of thanks from some of those who received the Silver Jubilee issue of The Digest, published in honour of His Majesty King George V.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Canada

Ottawa, June 6, 1935.

Dear Miss Lewis:

I have before me, yours of June 3rd, and have also received, under separate cover, the Jubilee issue of the Canadian Moving Picture Digest.

I must compliment you on the set-up and the matter contained therein and perhaps particularly the splendid pictures. I am taking the liberty of mailing The Digest to one of my friends up in the Rouyn mines. I am sure it will be illuminating to him.

With very kind regards, I am,

Yours faithfully,

JOHN R. MacNICOL.

* * *

JACK CANUCK

72 Queen Street West

Toronto, June 10, 1935.

Dear Miss Lewis:

Many thanks for the good-looking Silver Jubilee number of your magazine. So far, I have had time to scan it only hurriedly, but I am looking forward to going through it very thoroughly during the week-end.

Yours truly,

ANNE MERRILL,

Woman's Department.

* * *

CUNARD WHITE STAR Limited

217 Bay Street

June 7, 1935.

Dear Miss Lewis:

Permit me to acknowledge receipt of your letter of June 3rd together with copy of the Jubilee issue of your paper which I have read with a great deal of interest.

Very truly yours,

G. W. WILDBLOOD,

Ontario Passenger Manager.

* * *

THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF CANADA

Ottawa, June 11, 1935.

Dear Miss Lewis:

I have been directed by the Honourable C. H. Cahan to thank you very much indeed for the Jubilee issue of the Canadian Moving Picture Digest, which you kindly sent to him, and which he has read with interest.

Yours very truly,

J. R. DELANTE,

Private Secretary.

* * *

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN
OF CANADA

June 11, 1935.

Dear Miss Lewis:

Miss Kydd has asked me to acknowledge with thanks your letter of June 4th., and the copy of the Jubilee issue of the Canadian Moving Picture Digest.

I remain,

Yours truly,

ILA FANES,

Executive Treasurer.

Dear Old London

(Special to The Digest from our London correspondent,
Dennison Thornton)

Attack Upon American Films

AMERICAN horror and gangster films were strongly attacked by the Rt. Hon. Edward Shortt, K.C., president of the British Board of Film Censors, in a recent address to the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association.

Though quite in favor of permitting the cinema a reasonable freedom, Mr. Shortt expressed wholehearted disapproval of the new cycle of horror pictures.

Mr. Shortt severely criticised the new type of gangster film in which the hero, instead of being the criminal, was now the policeman or government agent. He did not approve of gangster subjects whether treated from the viewpoint of the law or the criminal. He hoped there would not be a cycle of these pictures.

During 1934, 1,862 films were passed by the British censor. Of these 1,396 were given "U" certificates, and 466 passed for exhibition to adults only. Compared to the previous year there was a definite increase in the number of "U" certificated films.

Mr. Shortt expressed appreciation of the almost total absence of "hostile and adverse criticism" in the press and elsewhere of the Board's activities. Great tribute, he said, was recently paid to the Board by visiting representatives of the American Film Production Code Committee who told him that the system of censorship in the United States was almost entirely modelled along British lines.

"No More Ladies"

A terrific crowd besieged the Empire Theatre recently when Robert Montgomery made a personal appearance there in connection with the showing of "No More Ladies" in which he and Joan Crawford are co-starred.

Montgomery was introduced to the audience by Mervyn Macpherson, M-G-M's monocled publicist. Since I was not on hand myself, I am unable to record the speeches. But friends of mine who were present tell me that they have seldom seen an audience roused to greater enthusiasm, or according a star a more rousing welcome.

Chevalier for British Pictures

MAURICE CHEVALIER has been signed by Toeplitz Productions, producers of "The Dictator", for title role in "The Beloved Vagabond", famous novel by William J. Locke. Picture will go before the cameras in the autumn. Chevalier, who has been recently appearing in a West End revue called "Stop Press", is also slated to appear in two London Films' productions, "The Marshall" and "Field of the Cloth of Gold".

Director and supporting cast have not been announced for "Vagabond", but I understand Toeplitz is negotiating for an ace American "regisseur".

Exchange of Stars

Exchange of stars between British and American producers has begun with the "swooping" of Jessie Matthews and Ciceley Courtneidge (GB) for Madge Evans and Maureen O'Sullivan (M-G-M). Miss Courtneidge has already gone to Hollywood to appear with Frank Morgan in "The Perfect Gentleman". Jessie Matthews leaves shortly to co-star with Fred Astaire in an M-G-M dancing picture.

It is anticipated that by the end of the year there will be as many first-class Hollywood stars working over here as there are British stars working in Hollywood.

**Cinematograph Exhibitors Assoc., National Assoc. Theatrical Employees
London, Eng., Discuss Abandonment Quota Act**

Lulu in Hollywood

DO YOU KNOW that Jean Hersholt whose latest is RKO Radio's "Break of Hearts" has an extensive collection of rare books?

That Gustav von Seyffertitz, who as prime minister commands his own guards in the fabulous kingdom of Kor in RKO's "She", was only seventeen when he was commanding men in the Austrian Army?

Questions

1. What famed star of silent pictures has been signed by RKO Radio Studios for "Old Man Rhythm"?
2. What member of a theatrical "Royal Family" is now playing the lead in "The Return of Peter Grimm"?
3. What six foot actor has been cast in the role of Glaucus in "The Last Days of Pompeii"?
4. What British actress, brought to Hollywood for "The Informer", has been such a success in pictures she has been given the role of "Milady" in "The Three Musketeers"?
5. What actor has a home in the Malibu mountains in which all the contrivances of city life are present except a telephone?

Answers

1. Charles (Buddy) Rogers.
2. Lionel Barrymore.
3. Preston Foster.
4. Margot Grahame.
5. Richard Dix.

AT Paramount my eyes are filled with nothing but the "Crusades". It is such a beautiful production that a few columns cannot give you any idea of what to expect, but it won't be long now, just a few more months and you will be able to see what I believe to be one of the few master-films, in that it carries on Cecil de Mille's work from one era to the next. The man is not only a genius, but a dreamer of dreams, beautiful dreams, and he is making them come true for the benefit of all of us. There is one bit that will grip you right where you live. It's the scene where the Christians are told they are free to go, and through all the excitement they do not forget to stop, and raise their voices in a song of thankfulness. Space permitting I hope to give you a few facts of the size of this undertaking. Thousands of people are used in this production.

Theatre Man Protests

Amusement Tax

Calling upon all interested persons to take action in order to prevail upon the Ontario Government to remove the Amusements Tax on low-priced admission tickets, D. J. Sandie, proprietor of the theatre at Thessalon, has written a strong letter of protest to the Allied Sports and Amusements Association, Toronto, which is campaigning for a continued tax exemption on all admission tickets of 25c and under. Excerpt from letter is as follows:

"I think it is a d--- outrage and unfair to tax children going to a show. It is bad enough to tax adults but also to tax the children is the limit. Surely there are other ways of raising this amount. The 15c tickets are dropping off very much.

"Have a talk with others and let me know what they think about it. The theatres in different parts of the Province could also take this up with their members of Parliament."